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Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Compilation of information received from indigenous peoples' organizations

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present note is a compilation of the responses received from indigenous peoples' organizations to a questionnaire on actions taken or planned in relation to indigenous peoples, in order to identify and share good practices. The questionnaire and the complete responses are available on the website of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/unpfii-sessions-2/unpfii-fifteenth-session.html).

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I. Introduction

1. The present note is the first compilation of information received from indigenous peoples' organizations on the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.[1] The Permanent Forum welcomes the participation of indigenous peoples in its sessions and acknowledges and thanks the organizations that have provided reports. It urges indigenous peoples' organizations to continue to provide information on their activities.

II. Responses from indigenous peoples' organizations

1. Association of Cwa Tribes of Mweka, Democratic Republic of the Congo

2. The Association represents the indigenous Cwa people of the Mweka territory, which has a large indigenous population, estimated to be approximately 10,000. The Association is the only indigenous organization founded by indigenous peoples, led by indigenous peoples and composed of indigenous peoples from the kasaïen area, in the central part of the country. Indigenous peoples from other territories have also asked to join the Association. In response, the Association has initiated the creation of "Together for the integral development of indigenous peoples of Kasai", an organization that will include all indigenous groups (Batwa, Cwa, Basangana and Bakua Ngombe) of the kasaïen area. The main challenge being faced is the lack of financial means to complete the administrative formalities to establish the organization.

3. The aims and objectives of the Association are to establish and strengthen solidarity and cooperation among all indigenous villages; raise awareness of self-determination; preserve indigenous cultural heritage; defend, protect and promote the rights of indigenous Cwa people and their struggle against all forms of marginalization; and protect indigenous forests. The Association has not participated in previous sessions of the Permanent Forum, but plans to do so in May 2016.

4. The Association makes efforts towards the peaceful resolution of conflicts between indigenous peoples and other ethnic groups. It has not been involved in any national efforts to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and is keen to do so. However, there is a gap in communication between national indigenous organizations and those in the field at the local level. Cwa indigenous peoples are increasingly becoming aware of their rights. A major obstacle is the lack of financial resources to organize regular information-sharing events in indigenous villages on the Declaration. Another obstacle is that other ethnic groups are not aware of the Declaration.

5. The ongoing work of the Association will include socioenvironmental safeguards, sessions on restitutions, providing feedback on all activities and assisting members in attending meetings at the national and international levels, as well as ensuring wide dissemination of the Declaration.

[1] The questionnaire was prepared by the secretariat of the Permanent Forum and sent to more than 300 indigenous peoples' organizations and networks, based on participation in Forum sessions, and 20 responses were received.

2. Bureau of Consultation for West Papua Indigenous Community Development, Indonesia

6. The main objective of the organization is to serve indigenous peoples in the areas of non-formal education, agriculture, primary health care, social welfare and the revitalization of traditional government systems. The goal of the organization is to focus on the grass-roots groups who live in isolated areas or villages. The organization represents the West Papuan indigenous peoples, whose total population is around 2 million. Members of the organization attended the first session of the Permanent Forum, in 2002.

7. The organization implements the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by raising awareness and having an understanding of free, prior and informed consent.

8. The organization has been involved in State-led measures to implement the Declaration, and has facilitated cooperation between the Government and indigenous peoples in this regard. One of the main roles of the organization has been to raise awareness of the Declaration in the villages. While some groups have some understanding of the Declaration, others, especially those people who live in remote villages, do not have any awareness. The challenge is to obtain the resources necessary to reach indigenous peoples in the hinterland.

9. In 2016, the organization plans to support a programme on the revitalization of Klisi, Namblong and Kemtuik's traditional government system in Jayapura Regency, Papua Province, the aim of which is to revitalize the traditional government system of the Klisi, Namblong and Kemtuik peoples through traditional wisdom and indigenous knowledge.

3. Comitê Intertribal — memória e ciência indígena, Brazil

10. The organization was founded in 1991 to support the participation of indigenous peoples in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. Indigenous peoples adopted the Kari-Oca Declaration during this process. In 2012, the organization was involved in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the eighth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by working on the protection of traditional knowledge and biodiversity.

11. The mission of the organization is to protect the rights of indigenous peoples on issues including the demarcation of lands and territories, their cultural heritage, the environment and interculturalism. In all its activities, the organization seeks to encourage indigenous participation, including the traditional chiefs, spiritual leaders, youth, men and women. The organization values respect for indigenous identity and sovereignty. In this regard, it works with around 40 indigenous groups in Brazil.

12. The organization was engaged in the process to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in the creation of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Several of its members have participated in numerous sessions of the Permanent Forum, including in 2014 and 2015. In 2015, it organized, with the participation of 24 countries, the first World Indigenous Games

in Palmas, Brazil, with the support of the Government of Brazil and the United Nations Development Programme, among others.

13. In Brazil, indigenous people face many problems in such areas as social, health, land demarcation, racism and education. The organization's main aim is to disseminate information about indigenous cultures and their traditions, heritage and customs. This is done by organizing indigenous events, such as national and international indigenous games, side events during international environmental events and indigenous cultural festivals.

14. Brazil is a very diverse country, with more than 300 indigenous peoples and ethnic groups. Currently, 14 per cent of the Brazilian territory is recognized as indigenous lands or territories. The official recognition is through the federal Government, which generates major conflicts of interest involving the Brazilian parliament, the judiciary and those opposed to land demarcation and indigenous interests.

15. In terms of State-led measures to implement the Declaration, several seminars and meetings have been held that have resulted in important indigenous recommendations; however, this is not enough for the full implementation of indigenous rights. A significant area that remains unclear concerns the formula adopted for "free consultation". In Brazil, the Declaration is seen as an international reference document. The obstacle to its application goes beyond the legal field and has become a political debate.

16. Capacity-building activities include discussions and debates on indigenous peoples at major political events, such as the World Social Forum. The United Nations Development Programme supported the organization during its most recent event. In 2016, the organization will hold the thirteenth Indigenous Peoples' Games in Brazil, and in 2017, it will be one of the organizers of the second World Indigenous Games. These activities will include political and traditional aspects, where sporting activities will focus on indigenous identity.

4. Consejo Nacional de Ayllus y Markas del Qullasuyu, Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

17. The organization pursues the re-establishment of indigenous peoples' territories, their self-government and the preservation of their sacred sites. It represents 15 indigenous nations: Karangas, Killakas, Qharaqharas, Chischas, Yamparas, Chuis, Charkas, Suras, Pakajaqis, Qullas, Kallawayas, Larikajas, Pukina and Urus (composed of Markas aran and urin). All of them are organized as Ayllus and are located in the highlands of five departments of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, representing 800,000 families. The urban Ayllus in La Paz are in the process of reconstitution.

18. The organization does not work specifically on conflict issues, but views conflict as an inherent concern in indigenous territories owing to the presence of mining companies and corporations that often generate violence against indigenous women.

19. The organization has stated that the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia has not shown any political will to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Government has also approved several laws without having consulted indigenous peoples, such as mining

laws, mining concessions to private companies and expansion of the agricultural frontier for agricultural exports, at the expense of indigenous peoples. The organization reports that there has not been any advancement or progress in the implementation of the Declaration, and it would appear that the recognition of indigenous rights goes back to International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 107, which has a culturally assimilationist orientation.

20. Community members of the organization work within their own self-government structures. However, there is a lack of consultation regarding the exploitation of natural resources on indigenous peoples' lands. The lack of consultation leads to conflict and the criminalization of indigenous leaders and authorities.

21. The organization does not receive any support from the United Nations. During 2016, it will organize the general assembly of the Andean Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations, its own ninth annual meeting and other meetings to implement the rights of indigenous peoples.

5. Consejo de Pueblos Originarios Nahuat Pipil, El Salvador

22. The organization represents the Nahua Pipil peoples. Its objective is to promote the rights of indigenous peoples, especially in relation to land and territories, food sovereignty, cultural rights and empowering women and youth. Members of the organization attended the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Permanent Forum, where they put forward recommendations on the need for Governments to comply with their constitutional mandates. They also met the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.

23. The organization is not involved in any State-led measures to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. One of its major successes has been the election of the first indigenous mayor of Izalco, from among 262 municipalities.

24. The organization implements the Declaration by elaborating public policies with State institutions and establishing practices in order to exercise indigenous peoples' autonomy in practising their traditional medicine and promoting their languages. While there are workshops to disseminate information, the organization's resources are limited; the work is therefore conducted on a voluntary basis. The organization does not receive support from the United Nations.

25. Conferences and meetings to be held in 2016 and 2017 include:

- Commemoration of the massacre of 1932 (held in January)
- Exchange of knowledge with 15 communities
- Exchange of seeds three times per year
- Indigenous women festival, on 9 August
- Yalcuilcat Festival
- Eighth Nahuat Pipil Cultural Festival
- Peace and Dignity Festivity.

6. Corporación Cultural y Ecológica Mujer, Tejer y Saberes, Colombia

26. The organization represents indigenous women from different communities and their families who have been displaced by armed conflict. It focuses on empowering indigenous women leaders, promoting their active participation in decision-making processes and training them on economic projects in order for them to develop their cultural identity, as well as generating their own income, using their traditional knowledge and values.

27. The organization has not participated in any session of the Permanent Forum. However, the theme for the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum is of particular relevance because in Colombia there are 85,126 indigenous women victims of land grabs, terrorist acts, forced disappearances, forced displacement, anti-personnel mines, killings, kidnappings, torture and forced recruitment. There are also many women victims who are not registered. The organization mainly focuses on the practice and preservation of indigenous culture in the city of Bogota, especially for children born outside their territories, with the intention that they will be able to return to the territory of their parents once a peace deal has been signed. It also provides psychosocial support to women victims of violence by performing traditional collective activities in which dialogue and personal and collective mourning is encouraged. The women are also trained in women's rights and gender equality and leadership and to preserve their native languages.

28. There is a view that peace will generate opportunities for indigenous women and their families who have suffered the effects of armed conflict. If there are no effective public policies for indigenous peoples' peace and conflict, any resolution will continue to be words only, and a source of enrichment for others. The organization receives some support from the International Organization for Migration for a project entitled "Minoyamena", which relates to the situation of displacement of indigenous women in the context of the armed conflict. The organization continues to focus on the rights of indigenous peoples in all its activities, especially in workshops with indigenous peoples and members of government institutions and non-governmental organizations.

29. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is not a legally binding instrument in Colombia and therefore is not relevant for the Government. However, the Constitutional Court of Colombia has quoted the Declaration where it has recognized indigenous collective rights. The organization regards the Declaration as a working tool for the development of activities with indigenous peoples; in its activities and workshops, information on indigenous peoples' rights and the Declaration are disseminated.

7. Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee), Canada

30. The main objectives and goals of the organization are to work towards solving the problems of the Cree people of Quebec; to affirm, exercise, protect and recognize the rights, claims and interests of the Cree people of Quebec; to promote, protect and assist in preserving the way of life, values and traditions of the Cree people of Quebec; to act as a regional or local government, authority, administrative or managerial body, institution or group in respect to such subject matters as may be given, delegated or confided to it by the Cree people; to improve and assist in improving the conditions in Cree communities and lands of northern Quebec; and to foster and promote the development of the Cree communities, lands and people of

Quebec. The Grand Council of the Crees represents approximately 18,000 Crees residing in nine Cree communities in James Bay, Quebec.

31. The organization has participated in all 14 sessions of the Permanent Forum, from 2002 to 2015. In terms of the theme of the fifteenth session of the Forum, "Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution", it has been noted that conflicts often arise in the context of lands, territories and resources and, in particular, the implementation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement of 1975, which constitutes a treaty under the Constitution of Canada, and violence against indigenous women and girls. The Grand Council of the Crees has engaged actively in litigation and entered into numerous agreements with the federal and Quebec governments since early in the 1970s. It also called for a national inquiry into murdered and missing indigenous women and girls. The Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, and the newly elected federal Government have formally announced that such an inquiry will take place in 2016.

32. A top priority of the newly elected federal Government is to implement recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, starting with the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Grand Council of the Crees is a member of a broad coalition of indigenous and human rights organizations whose main purpose is to collaborate with the Government of Canada in implementing the Declaration through a national action plan. The main challenge is to ensure that the Government interprets the Declaration in a manner consistent with indigenous peoples' rights and related State obligations under international human rights law.

33. In 2010, a workshop on the Declaration was organized to inform Cree community justice officers and community reintegration officers. Webinars that are accessible to Cree communities on the Declaration have also been held nationwide. As in past years, the Coalition for the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which includes the Grand Council of the Crees, will continue to hold meetings in 2016 and 2017 on indigenous rights and concerns. Such meetings include both international and national human rights strategies.

8. Indigenous Municipality of Sololá, Department of Sololá (Municipalidad Indígena de Sololá del Departamento de Sololá), Guatemala

34. The Indigenous Municipality of Sololá, Department of Sololá, Guatemala, aims to ensure that indigenous peoples are able to live in conditions of equality, with equal opportunities and without discrimination or exclusion. It also aims to apply indigenous peoples' systems of justice to resolve conflicts and guarantee social, cultural, economic and political rights, harmonious coexistence, peace and balance. The organization represents the Maya Kaqchikel peoples.

35. Representatives of the organization participated in the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum, in 2014. The organization has coordinated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Guatemala to organize training activities, meetings, exchanges of experiences and meetings with judges of the Constitutional Court on issues relating to the rights of indigenous peoples in accordance with national legal frameworks, conventions, treaties and declarations.

36. The mayors of the Indigenous Municipality of Sololá, Department of Sololá are the traditional authorities; they have solved several conflicts as they are the

mediators at all levels. They have been dealing with several government institutions to raise awareness on the importance of respecting the traditional systems of conflict resolution for the harmony of the community as a whole.

37. The organization has indicated that it is not aware of any initiative of the Government of Guatemala to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, the Declaration is an important instrument that is used to advocate for their rights. There is a lack of knowledge on the Declaration within government institutions; therefore, the policies adopted are often not in line with the Declaration or other human rights instruments. However, the traditional authorities are using it in their daily work to advocate for their rights and to promote respect for their traditional ways of living.

38. The mayors of the Indigenous Municipality of Sololá, Department of Sololá are implementing a programme to strengthen the traditional authorities, with the support of the Embassy of Sweden. They have also been supported by the United Nations country team in capacity-building sessions to promote dialogue with the Constitutional Court of Guatemala. From January 2016, they will be in charge of indigenous authorities.

9. Kapaeeng Foundation, Bangladesh

39. The Kapaeeng Foundation is a human rights organization for indigenous peoples in Bangladesh. It was established on 1 April 2004 with a view to working for the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples of the country. The vision of the organization is to establish a society based on the values of justice, equity and freedom in which the fundamental freedoms and human rights of indigenous peoples are ensured. Its mission is, among other things, to promote and protect the human rights of the indigenous peoples of the country and to conduct advocacy, lobbying and campaign programmes at the local, national, regional and international levels and to raise the capacity of indigenous peoples in promoting and protecting their human rights. It tries to represent all the indigenous groups or community regarding violations of their human rights.

40. Kapaeeng Foundation representatives have attended sessions of the Permanent Forum from 2009 to 2012 and in 2014 and 2015. By attending the sessions, the representatives are able to raise emerging issues by presenting statements. They also have the opportunity to strengthen networks for greater solidarity. The Kapaeeng Foundation has organized capacity-building training activities for indigenous human rights defenders on different areas of human rights for indigenous peoples.

41. The promotion and protection of rights and the establishment of peace and harmony are interconnnected. Throughout the year, there are a number of activities that are relevant to indigenous peoples, conflict, peace and resolution. The Kapaeeng Foundation works closely with the National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh on land disputes. It also works on issues with regard to tourism, primary education for indigenous children in their mother tongue and, with the Bangladesh Indigenous Women's Network, the rights of indigenous women.

42. Indigenous peoples are not recognized as indigenous in Bangladesh; this is the main obstacle to the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Moreover, the Government and mainstream society are not respectful or sensitized enough to the ethnic and cultural diversity of

indigenous peoples. As the Kapaeeng Foundation is a human rights organization, it collects data and information relating to violations of human rights, including indigenous peoples' rights to ancestral land and culture.

43. As a specialized agency of the United Nations system, ILO directly supports the organization's work on indigenous peoples with its project on indigenous and tribal peoples, through which it holds meetings, training activities, workshops and capacity-building activities. Moreover, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples supports representatives' attendance at meetings of United Nations bodies related to indigenous peoples' rights, including the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Permanent Forum.

44. Conferences and meetings to be held in 2016 and 2017 include:

- National preparatory meeting for United Nations mechanisms related to indigenous peoples (2016 or 2017)
- National dialogue after the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- National workshop on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+)
- Third national indigenous women's conference (2016)
- Regional capacity-building training for indigenous women and girls
- Indigenous youth conference (2016 and 2017)
- Indigenous peoples' human rights defenders' conference (2017)
- Organize Human Rights Fair (2016)
- Indigenous youth peace camp (2016 and 2017).

10. Maya K'iche' Association for Integral Development, Guatemala

45. There are 200 different associations that belong to the organization, the aim of which is:

(a) To achieve the active participation of women to improve their quality of life;

(b) To implement programmes for the integral development of families and to preserve their moral, ethical and spiritual values.

46. The members of the organization have not attended the Permanent Forum, but believe that it could support their work by including the work of indigenous entrepreneurs. They are not aware of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. They are implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by strengthening the participation of indigenous peoples on different platforms. The organization carries out capacity-building programmes by providing special programmes to its personnel on indigenous peoples' rights.

47. The organization has attended meetings of United Nations entities, but does not receive support from the United Nations. Members of the organization are planning to participate in the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum, as well as

other meetings and activities at the local, national and international levels on the Global Network of Indigenous Entrepreneurs.

11. Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative/Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office, Canada

48. The mission of the organization is to address the historical and current imbalances in the relationship between Mi'kmaq and non-Mi'kmaq people in Nova Scotia and to secure the basis for an improved quality of life of Mi'kmaq people. The organization undertakes the necessary research, develops consensus positions on identified issues and creates public and community awareness in a manner that supports the ability of the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs to fully guide negotiations on and the implementation and exercise of constitutionally protected Mi'kmaq rights. Its objectives are:

(a) To achieve the recognition, acceptance, implementation and protection of treaties, titles and other rights of the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia;

(b) To develop systems of Mi'kmaq governance and resource management;

(c) To revive, promote and protect a healthy Mi'kmaq identity;

(d) To obtain the basis for a shared economy and social development;

(e) To negotiate towards these goals with community involvement and support.

49. The organization works on behalf of the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs, which is the highest level of decision-making in the negotiation process. The Assembly comprises 13 Mi'kmaq Chiefs and 2 ex officio members. The ex officio members include the Grand Chief and the Grand Captain of the Mi'kmaq Grand Council, who represents the entire Mi'kmaq territory, called Mi'kma'ki, which includes Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Maine. There are approximately 15,000 Mi'kmaw in Nova Scotia.

50. The organization participated in the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum, in 2014. The Native Women's Association of Canada and the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations participate in the Permanent Forum, and the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have elected representation on these bodies; however, there has not been any direct interaction with the Permanent Forum to date.

51. The organization works on the implementation of Mi'kmaq treaty rights and aboriginal rights and titles in the Peace and Friendship Treaties. The negotiation process started after the Marshall decision of 1999. The office of the organization works on a daily basis to address issues relating to the duty to consult, and comprises a negotiation team that represents the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs and technical staff to conduct research. The "Made in Nova Scotia" process is about the implementation of self-determination and self-governance. As part of the process, the self-determination of identity (citizenship), the negotiation of Mi'kmaq treaty rights and aboriginal rights and titles are the main issues and include access and control of lands and cultural protections. Furthermore, the consultation process in Nova Scotia is working to achieve free, prior and informed consent.

52. The organization conducts community engagement sessions and provides newsletters and social media updates. Its other work includes focus groups,

meetings and workshops. It will be holding a conference on nationhood in 2016 or 2017. All the elected band councillors and chiefs participate. Other meeting events and their dates have yet to be decided.

12. New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council, Australia

53. The New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council is committed to ensuring a better future for aboriginal people by working for the return of culturally significant and economically viable land, pursuing cultural, social and economic independence for its people and being politically proactive and voicing the position of aboriginal people on issues that affect them. As a community body, the governance structures within the land rights system in the State of New South Wales are designed to achieve the highest degree of representation and participation for aboriginal peoples.

54. The New South Wales Aboriginal Land Rights Act of 1983 was enacted in recognition of, and in an attempt to remedy, the ongoing effects of the dispossession of aboriginal people in New South Wales. In the Act, the prior ownership of aboriginal peoples is significantly acknowledged and recognized and the principles of self-determination and compensation are embodied. The objects and purposes of the Act and the claim process are also significant in the light of Australia's obligations under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. New South Wales has the highest aboriginal population of any State or Territory of Australia. In the most recent census, in 2011, it was recorded as 202,674, representing just over 32 per cent of the total aboriginal population of Australia.

55. The New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council participated in the ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Permanent Forum. As a statutory body with an objective to foster and promote the best interests of the aboriginal people of New South Wales, human rights advocacy is a core priority for the organization and its operations. Engagement with the Permanent Forum has enhanced the organization's capacity to contribute to the promotion and development of a human rights framework in Australia as it applies to aboriginal peoples and, in dealing with the Government and the wider community, to improve outcomes for aboriginal peoples.

56. The organization has sent submissions to the Government of Australia and the New South Wales government in relation to constitutional recognition, culture and heritage reform and the review on Crown lands; however, it has not been included in State-led measures to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It participated in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and its preparatory meetings. While the Government of Australia has announced its support for the Declaration, it has not embedded the principles of the Declaration in national legislation. Its position on indigenous rights and the Declaration is reflected in the implementation of discriminatory laws and policies, such as income management and paperless arrests, which continue to disproportionately affect indigenous peoples in Australia.

57. The Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing is conducted every five years; it is the largest collection of statistical information on a wide range of social and economic matters and key characteristics of the population of Australia. Following the most recent collection of national data, in 2011, the New

South Wales Aboriginal Land Council further analysed the data to inform policy. Its analysis of the 2011 census is available online and in hard copy. It describes the New South Wales aboriginal population, education, employment, distribution of income and housing, and is further broken down across the regions covered by the organization.

58. Capacity-building of staff and members includes the Diplomacy Training Programme, an independent non-governmental organization affiliated with the University of New South Wales that seeks to advance human rights and empower civil society in the Asia-Pacific region. Across the organization's networks of local aboriginal land councils, ongoing governance training is provided to all elected board members, which supports communities in developing the skills, knowledge and resources that enable them to better manage their own affairs.

13. Sociedad Maya el Adelanto, Guatemala

59. Sociedad Maya el Adelanto represents the Maya K'iche' and Maya Mam from the Indigenous Municipality of Quetzaltenango. The organization's objectives include combating ethnic and cultural discrimination, preservation of the Mayan K'iche' heritage, respect for the Mayan worldview, commitment to community service, protection of indigenous peoples' rights and encouraging formal and informal education. The organization also intends to promote new multi-ethnic relationships at the local, national and international levels.

60. The organization has not participated in sessions of the Permanent Forum, but is aware of the Forum and its work. The Permanent Forum is seen as an international political forum at which recommendations are adopted to guide the work of the United Nations system through projects, programmes and funds, as well as through governments, indigenous organizations and civil society. These recommendations have helped indigenous peoples to implement their programmes to protect and promote their human rights and to improve their living conditions.

61. The organization has not participated in any activity promoted by the Government of Guatemala. However, it has participated in seminars at which the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was discussed. Most non-governmental organizations know about the Declaration and how it helps to promote the rights of indigenous peoples. The Government does not want to implement internationally agreed instruments, and therefore national laws are not harmonized.

62. The organization uses the Declaration in capacity-building training activities to promote the participation of indigenous youth and women. Other training includes capacity-building sessions for the representatives of the Maya K'iche' in the National Urban and Rural Development Council.

14. The Sámi Parliament of Finland

63. The main objective of the Sámi Parliament is to plan and implement the cultural self-government guaranteed to the Sámi as an indigenous people. It is the supreme political body of the Sámi in Finland. The members of the Sámi Parliament are elected from among the Sámis every four years. Owing to its representative nature, the Sámi Parliament provides an official view of the Sámi in Finland on the issues concerning them. There are around 10,000 Sámis living in Finland.

64. The Sámi Parliament has attended sessions of the Permanent Forum many times to raise awareness on issues concerning the Sámi people and their situation in Finland. Furthermore, it is an important forum for networking with other indigenous peoples and for sharing and exchanging ideas. It is also a good forum for discussing issues concerning Sámi people between the Government of Finland and the Sámi Parliament.

65. There is an ongoing conflict over the definition of Sámi self-determination and the elections of the Sámi Parliament in Finland. The elections of the Sámi Parliament are held every four years, and, to be able to vote, a person must be registered as a Sámi in the Sámi Parliament's list of voters. Recently, a large group of applicants have been trying to enrol, but the election committee, chosen by the Sámi Parliament plenum among the Sámis themselves, has rejected the applications. According to the Sámi Parliament's election committee and the executive board, the applicants did not meet the requirements. There is a view that a large number of the applicants are trying to enrol for the perceived benefits of being recognized as indigenous and Sámi if Finland were to ratify ILO Convention No. 169.

66. In 2011, the Supreme Administrative Court decided to accept four applicants who are not seen as Sámi according to the Sámi Parliament's election committee. The State of Finland therefore violates and continues to violate the Sámi people's right to determine their identity or membership. The heated debate has escalated and could be seen as a conflict between two opposing groups.

67. Although Finland has not developed a national implementation plan for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, some initiatives have been made to implement the Declaration. For instance, the Sámi Parliament has been involved in the drafting of legislation, in accordance with article 19 of the Declaration.

68. During the elections of the Sámi Parliament, certain data of the Sámi people is collected, including on languages spoken. In 2015, the Sámi Parliament received funding from the development fund for agriculture and forestry to collect, analyse and publish information in North Sámi, Inari Sámi, Skolt Sámi and Finnish on the status of and trends in Sámi languages and traditional Sámi livelihoods. The election committee of the Sámi Parliament sent a survey form to all Sámi people entitled to vote, together with the notice of the vote. The first part of the survey focused on defining the number of Sámi language speakers (linguistic indicator) and the other part dealt with the state of traditional Sámi livelihoods by requesting information on the livelihoods of the respondent's family and the livelihood structure of the Sámi people. The results of the survey will be available in 2016.

15. The regional public organization of Tuba-kalyk, Altai Republic, Russian Federation

69. Tuba-kalyk (Tubalars) is a member of the association of the small-numbered peoples of Altai Republic, which brings together 3,000 small-numbered indigenous peoples, such as the Kumandins, Telengits, Tubalars and Chelkans. The main focus of the organization is to preserve the language, culture and traditions of the Tubalars peoples. The organization has not attended sessions of the Permanent Forum, although it hopes to do so in the future.

70. In 2015, the organization received a grant from the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues relating to the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, to preserve the endangered Tubalar language. The Tubalars are a forest people who live off the natural resources, or "gifts", of the taiga. During the time of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Tubalars used to cut down the forest, but the taiga was leased for 49 years to private firms in the Altai Republic. Currently, there is no work for the community or opportunities to educate children, and the language is not taught. There are many social problems in the community, including alcoholism, and women have limited rights.

71. The organization uses various platforms to stop the cedar trees from being cut, as they are sacred to the Tubalars. Meetings are planned to discuss ways to ban deforestation, protect the cedar trees and find ways to guarantee the rights of the small-numbered peoples of Altai Republic.

16. Traditional Authorities of Indigenous Peoples — Principal Government, Colombia

72. The organization has been in existence for more than 40 years and supports the ancestral movement of indigenous peoples. Its main purpose is to defend indigenous territories and to strengthen indigenous peoples' identity. It represents 10 groups of indigenous peoples: the Nasa, Misak, Pijao, Yanakona, Embera, Dovida, Wounaan, Kamentsa, Inga and Kubeo peoples.

73. There is a perception that the Permanent Forum works only with the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia, while there are actually five national indigenous organizations in the country (the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia, the Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon Region, the Tairona Indigenous Confederation, Traditional Authorities of Indigenous Peoples — Principal Government and the Movement of Indigenous Authorities of Colombia for Pachamama (Mother Earth)). The organization works on issues relating to conflict, peace and resolution.

74. The implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples takes place at the national level, and five national indigenous organizations have requested the Government of Colombia to adopt national legislation recognizing the Declaration. The main obstacle to implementing the Declaration is the lack of will by the Government. The organization promotes and advocates for the implementation of the Declaration. However, it lacks the financial resources to develop programmes to promote the rights of indigenous peoples.

75. In 2016, the members of the organization will develop a project related to the national development plan called "Process of revitalization of the indigenous worldview", aimed at strengthening their distinct identity. There is a call for United Nations efforts, including: the realization of a national congress of traditional authorities in Colombia, economic support for its activities, the consolidation of indigenous peoples' territories, capacity-building and technical support on free, prior and informed consultation and economic support for the traditional authorities of the indigenous peoples of Colombia.

17. West Papua Interest Association, Indonesia

76. The West Papua Interest Association is an indigenous peoples' organization that represents the people of West Papua. There are many different tribes in West Papua from the middle highlands, lowlands, valleys, lakes, rivers, coasts and small islands, that have gathered together to form the West Papua Interest Association. The main objectives and goals of the organization are to advocate for the protection of human rights of West Papua indigenous peoples. The total number of members is around 40,000.

77. The organization has actively participated in the sessions of the Permanent Forum and made interventions on the human rights situation in West Papua from 2008 to 2015. The organization needs the Permanent Forum to take forward the aspiration of self-determination of the indigenous peoples of West Papua. The New York Agreement of 15 August 1962 between the Netherlands and Indonesia did not involve or respect the rights of West Papua indigenous peoples, and this is where the initial conflicts began.

78. The organization disseminates information regarding the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples among indigenous peoples. However, the obstacle is that indigenous peoples continue to face discrimination by the local government and the police, which have labelled indigenous peoples' organizations as illegal and separatist organizations. The organization provides human rights training to indigenous representatives.

18. West Papua National Authority, based in West Papua, with its international offices in Melbourne, Australia, and Washington, D.C.

79. The main objective of the organization is to preserve and promote the unique culture of West Papuan people and to promote peace and stability.

80. Representatives of the organization have attended the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples and sessions of the Permanent Forum. The Permanent Forum provides an avenue for the organization to regularly participate in discussions on issues pertaining to the rights of indigenous peoples. It also gives the organization an opportunity to raise issues.

81. Peace remains the founding principle for the organization to promote security and diplomatic dialogue and to seek the peaceful resolution of the issues facing West Papuans. It has as a basis the principle of peace that the West Papuan Melanesian Women Solidarity was founded to promote gender equality and Melanesian women's culture and to ensure the security of the indigenous women of West Papua.

82. There are many obstacles to implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the lack of will by the Government. The organization has translated the Declaration into the local language of Papua Malay so that indigenous peoples can have a better understanding of their rights.

83. The organization and the West Papuan communities hold regular training activities with local people on the rule of law in relation to their cultural rights. The community is also encouraged to hold dialogue among themselves, especially in places where the organization is not able to go. To achieve this goal, leaders

throughout West Papua come together once a month to discuss their progress and any concerns.

84. The United Nations has given the organization a voice in participating in indigenous peoples' forums. However, the United Nations could do more to honour and protect indigenous peoples' dignity. In 2016 and 2017, the affiliates of the organization will participate in various meetings in the Pacific region, such as the Melanesian Spearhead Group and the Pacific Islands Forum. In the United States of America, the organization will continue to inform and educate people, including in colleges, about their issues. It will also participate in United Nations meetings for indigenous peoples, as well as in meetings relating to human rights.

19. Working Group of Indigenous Peoples in the Barents Euro-Arctic region, based in Finland, Norway, the Russian Federation and Sweden

85. The organization was appointed by the Barents Regional Council and was established on a permanent basis in 1995. It has an advisory status in the Barents Regional Council and the Barents Euro-Arctic Council, and therefore has a particular political dimension within the formal structure of the Barents cooperation. It consists of six members, with three members appointed by the Sámi Parliamentary Council and one member each from the Sámi congress of Murmansk Oblast, the regional public movement "Association of the Nenets People" and the Veps Culture Society.

86. The organization has staff at the Norwegian Barents secretariat in Kirkenes, Norway, and the Barents Indigenous Peoples' Office in Murmansk, Russian Federation. The purpose of the organization is to serve as a forum for indigenous peoples' cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic region, comprising parts of Finland, Norway, the Russian Federation and Sweden, and to ensure the involvement of the indigenous peoples of the region in decision-making processes and their participation in the cooperation.

87. The overall goal for the indigenous peoples' cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region is to secure indigenous peoples' rights and a foundation for trade, society, culture and language through the implementation of the Action Plan for Indigenous Peoples in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region.

88. The organization participated in the tenth session of the Permanent Forum. On 19 May 2011, it arranged a side event with the Russian Association of Indigenous People of the North on the democratization processes among indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation. The previous Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, James Anaya, was the keynote speaker at a seminar held the day before the second Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress, in 2012, on the topic of indigenous peoples' rights and corporations.

89. It is obvious that indigenous women play a significant part in the political sphere in the region, as the majority of the current representatives of the organization are women. Indigenous women have high political positions, as the Sámi Parliaments in Finland and Norway are chaired by women (as at December 2015), and the Veps Culture Society is chaired by a woman, whereas the remaining participating organizations are led by men. The Sámi Women's Forum is an observer to the organization and is invited to take part in all meetings and in the preparation of documents, such as the resolutions of the Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress.

90. The organization participated in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples preparatory conference, in Alta, Norway, in June 2013. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples serves as an important document for the organization's activities and is certainly an important reference in its documents. All four nation States have challenges regarding the implementation of the Declaration. In Finland, there have been serious tensions between the State and the Sámi Parliament over the past year. Early in 2015, Finland refused to revise the Sámi Act and ignored the treaty agreed with the Sámi Parliament. Just before the election of the Sámi Parliament, the Supreme Administrative Court of Finland overruled the Sámi Parliament decisions regarding the inclusion of individuals to the electoral roll. Norway is the only Barents State that has ratified ILO Convention No. 169, and the agreement on procedures for consultation between the Government of Norway and the Sámi Parliament in Norway has existed for 10 years. The Government has broken this agreement too often with regard to education and fisheries management. The organization is worried about the situation for indigenous peoples' non-governmental organizations in the Russian Federation, and in particular the effect that the Federal Law on Non-commercial Organizations may have on the development and continuation of the Barents cooperation.

91. The organization bases its work on the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which is a crucial background document for the resolutions of and the discussions in the Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress. The organization provides and participates in capacity-building through cooperation with other indigenous peoples' organizations in projects and through the implementation of the Action Plan for Indigenous Peoples (the latest was adopted by the third Barents Indigenous Peoples' Congress. held in Tromsø, Norway, on 4 February 2015). Currently, there is no formal contact between the organization and the United Nations, and the support has not extended beyond what has been mentioned above.

92. In 2016 and 2017, the organization will hold its regular meetings and participate in all meetings of the Committee of Senior Officials of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council, chaired by the Russian Federation, as well as all other relevant meetings. According to the priorities of the Chair of the Council (2015-2017), the Russian Federation is to host an indigenous peoples' meeting during the chairmanship, and the organization will be the dialogue partner for the shaping and planning of the event, which might take place in 2017. In the light of these priorities, the organization has launched the idea of cooperating with the Chair on a side event at the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum.

20. Yapti Tasba Masraka Nanih Aslatakanka, Nicaragua

93. The organization promotes the identity and the collective rights of Moskitia indigenous peoples in Nicaragua. It also promotes the historical rights of indigenous peoples to their lands and territories, to self-government, to their identity and to visions of development. The organization represents a pluriethnic movement comprising the Miskitu people (180,000 persons), the Sumu-Mayangna nation (30,000), the Rama people (2,000), the Garífuna community (2,500) and the Creole community (40,000).

94. The organization has participated in the sessions of the Permanent Forum from 2013 to 2015. Through participation at the Permanent Forum, indigenous peoples

can highlight their struggle, cultures and identities at the international level. The Permanent Forum also provides opportunities for networking and communication with other indigenous peoples around the world and to engage with international organizations and representatives of national governments.

95. The organization supports community organizations to protect their territorial rights from outside settlers. The Government does not take any position to solve the conflicts between indigenous peoples and settlers who take over their traditional lands. The conflicts have caused deaths, kidnappings and internal and external displacement. The displaced persons mostly comprise children, older people and women from the communities affected by the conflict. The organization promotes self-protection mechanisms as well as the dialogue for peaceful solutions to conflicts.

96. The Government does not take any action to promote or implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The organization does not participate in any activity related to the implementation of the Declaration. The only initiative was in 2007, when the national Parliament of Nicaragua acknowledged the Declaration by a resolution and expressed its willingness to harmonize national legislation in line with the Declaration. National institutions do not fully understand the meaning of the Declaration and therefore policies and programmes do not consider the rights of indigenous peoples. In addition, there is a lack of knowledge about the Declaration by indigenous peoples owing to limited access to information and capacity-building.

97. The organization states that there is no interest on the part of the Government to collect data. It is therefore difficult to identify the situation of indigenous peoples. In Nicaragua, there is a tendency to homogenize data. The organization does not receive support from the United Nations. Recently, all the United Nations country team programmes relating to indigenous peoples in Nicaragua have had to be channelled through the relevant government institutions.

98. Depending on its financial situation, the organization supports some capacity-building sessions for chiefs and communal leaders. These capacity-building programmes include raising awareness and understanding the Declaration and ILO Convention No. 169. The organization will attend meetings of the general assembly of Moskitia and Afro-descendant groups in February 2016; training sessions on indigenous territories from March to June 2016; seminars on the Inter-American Court of Human Rights decision of 2005 on *Nicaragua vs. Yapti Tasba Masraka Nanih Aslatakanka* from July to November 2016; a regional seminar on the right to self-determination in the first half of 2017; and workshops on indigenous territorial governments in the second half of 2017.